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Controls Division  
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MODEL 400  
MOISTURE TESTER

Theory of Operation

The basic principle of operation of Dole Moisture Meters is that of measuring the effective dielectric constant of the grain as it alters the electrical capacity between two plates of a capacitor. Measurement is made at approximately 2 Megacycles in frequency, so that the impedance of a relatively small cell is of significant measurable value.

Electrically, grain appears like a capacitor of 0 to 20 p.f. in parallel with a 10K ohm resistance. Capacitance varies with amount of moisture present. The dielectric constant of water is 80, while air is 1 and starches and cellulose is 1 to 4. The curve of percent moisture vs. capacitance is non-linear and varies from one grain type to another. The resistive component is in reality energy absorption and will cause a higher moisture reading than that due to the dielectric constant alone. In calibration, this effect is corrected to insure highest accuracy.

Background

The product was first developed by Radson in 1955. Numerous model changes have been made in the intermediate years. The early models were tube types, but all current ones employ solid state circuitry. The current models are PB-70 Dole Model 400 and PB-71 for private label accounts. Both are identical except for styling of the housing. These models employ a 9 volt transistor battery or an optional A.C. plug in supply.

Circuit

The circuit shown is Schematic BD-28305. A 2 MHz transistor oscillator drives a capacitance ratio circuit, which consists of an isolated A.C. voltage source (oscillator transformer secondary) and two capacitive ratio arms, one of which consists of the main dial capacitor and measuring cell along with curve shaping and trimming capacitors (C4, C5, C7, C8, C9, C15 and Cell) while the other arm contains the reference and calibration capacitors (C6, C16 and C10). Two diode detectors are used in opposition to drive a microammeter null indicator. The detectors drive a positive current into a virtual ground (not an actual D.C. ground) therefore, resistors R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are employed to return unbalanced, opposite polarity currents to the source.

Cont.....

①

MOISTURE TESTERCircuit - Cont.

In general, the grain test cell is in parallel with the variable capacitor and represents one side of the capacitive divider network. A fixed capacitor represents the other side. When the two sides of the capacitor divider are equal in impedance, the voltages at the output of the detector diodes are positive and equal, causing a zero current or null condition. It is quite important that the dial alignment is set to correspond to the balance point to eliminate errors due to battery voltage magnitude, transistor characteristics, stray capacity, etc.


The oscillator circuit is quite critical in that the primary and secondary of the transformer are overcoupled to produce a double resonance "hump" at the secondary. The circuit is tuned to the lower or minor resonance peak to provide stable circuit operation. Resistor R<sub>7</sub> is also used to lower the circuit Q and improve stability.

Some other specifics of the circuit are the use of capacitor C<sub>9</sub> for D.C. blocking and curve shaping for the test cell; a 33K (R<sub>6</sub>) resistor across the test cell to swamp the affects of surface moisture on grains; and dial curve shaping capacitor C<sub>4</sub>.

M. Hamilton  
MH/cb

1-17-75



DO NOT SCALE DRAWING	C-32410	REV
ALL CHANGES TO DRAWING MUST BE DONE ON CAD		THIRD ANGLE PROJECTION

**Lebow**  
Physical Measurement  
Products

**Eaton Corporation**  
P.O. Box 1089  
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1728 Mapletawn Road  
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### MODEL 400 MOISTURE TESTER

#### DIAL REMOVAL/REPLACEMENT

##### REMOVAL:

- 1) REMOVE SCREWS HOLDING FIDUCIALS IN PLACE.
- 2) REMOVE HUB BY GRASPING WITH PLIERS, ROCKING BACK AND FORTH WHILE PULLING UP ON HUB.
- 3) LOOSEN THE SET SCREW HOLDING THE DIAL ASSEMBLY TO THE SHAFT AND REMOVE DIAL ASSEMBLY.

##### INSTALLATION:

- 1) PLACE NEW DIAL ASSEMBLY ON SHAFT, DO NOT TIGHTEN SET SCREW.
- 2) RE-INSTALL FIDUCIALS.
- 3) LINE UP FINS ON VARIABLE CAPACITOR, SO THAT ALL ARE EVEN.
- 4) LINE UP MARK LOCATED UNDER "SCALE A" WITH LINE ON BOTTOM FIDUCIAL. TIGHTEN SET SCREW.
- 5) CHECK TO INSURE THAT WITH THE ALIGNMENT IN STEP 4 THAT THE FINS ON THE VARIABLE CAPACITOR ARE STILL EVEN. IF NOT, REPEAT STEP 4.
- 6) CAREFULLY PRESS ON HUB.

IF YOU ARE CAREFUL IN DOING THE ABOVE PROCEDURES NO RE-CALIBRATION IS REQUIRED.

[illegible]

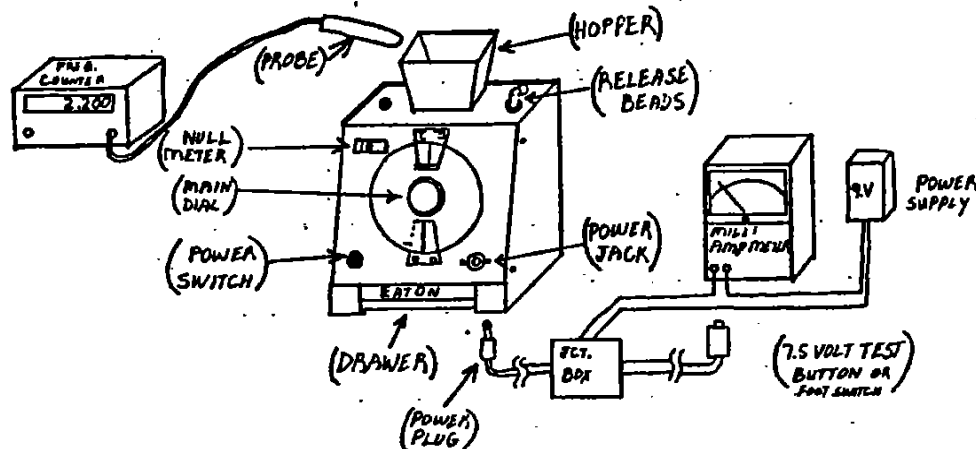
**EATON****Process Instruction Sheet**
 Part No. PB-70-A11  
 Operation No. 0020 7516  
 B/P Revision \_\_\_\_\_

 Prepared By: J. Willett Part Name: Moisture Meter  
 Approved By: M. Hamilton Date: 10/18/84 Issue: \_\_\_\_\_ Sheet 1 Of 1  
 Operation Description: Calibrate Moisture Meter

Tool and Gage Numbers	Description	Tool and Gage Numbers	Description
	Simpson 260 Meter		Bead Sample
	Power Supply		Padded Drawer
	Tuning Wand		
	3/32 Screwdriver		
	Cal. Fixture		
	Bead Release Hopper		

**Sketch**

**IMPORTANT:** Check bead sample in standard meter prior to calibrating production meters. Add beads when necessary. Retest beads every 2 hours or more frequently if bead loss is suspected.

**Instructions**

1. Connect power to meter thru front panel jack. Press power switch and note current draw. If draw is over 10 ma. put meter aside for analysis. If less than 10 ma. - continue.
2. Assemble release hopper to moisture meter hopper. Pour in calibrated bead sample and press lever to drop beads into the cell.
3. Adjust main dial to "A" scale 23. Assume coil is tuned close to first peak from previous test. Turn coil slug CCW while monitoring milliamp meter. Current should decrease. Readjust CW till current is maximum.
4. Adjust trimmer capacitor till point of null meter is centered in "Ball".
5. Press switch to drop power supply voltage to 7.0 volts. Turn main dial to bring null meter to balance if it changed. Main dial reading must be "A" scale 23 + 2 divisions. Retune coil if necessary while actuating 7.0 volt switch. Monitor null meter for decreasing movement while switching between 7.0 and 9 volts. Readjust trimmer capacitor for "A" scale 23 + 2 divisions.
6. Place frequency meter probe in cell. Frequency must be  $2.20 \pm .2$  MHz.
7. Verify battery operation, release beads to padded drawer and ass'y final drawer.

**Special Notes:** The first meter of a days run should be checked by Q.C. as soon as possible after calibrating to verify conformance to product spec.

 Operation No. 0020 763  
 B/P Revision \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mfg. Plant \_\_\_\_\_

## Manufacturing Instruction Shoot #SC- 007

Page 1 of 1

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ELECTRICAL CALIBRATION  
OF MOISTURE METERSRevision A  
3-19-74Revision B  
5-20-74EQUIPMENT REQUIRED:

1. V.T.V.M. with 20 Meg. Probe.
2. Frequency Meter.
3. Glass Beads, calibrated.
4. Tuning Wand T-43962.
5. Tuning Handle T-47049.

SET-UP:

1. Set V.T.V.M. to 15 V.D.C. range.
2. Set Freq. Meter to MHZ range.
3. Connect ground leads of both meters to fixture frame.
4. Put Moisture Meter in fixture and plug into 120V line.

OSCILLATOR ADJUSTMENT (When boards are pre-caled)

1. Adjust balance control to half plates, set dial to red balance line.
2. Turn "Bal.On" knob to Bal. position, and adjust "Cal" control on board until bal. meter is at zero. Use Tool # T-47049.
3. Connect V.T.V.M. with 20 MEG, probe to "Cal" control.
4. Using tuning wand, T-43962, turn slug of coil for max. output of 1st peak, must be between 7 to 7.5V.
5. Repeat steps 2,3 & 4 if necessary; balance meter must be at zero when coil is peaked.
6. Remove leads of V.T.V.M. from board.  
Using frequency meter, check frequency output by connecting probe to yellow lead on cell and turn "Bal. On" switch to on position. Meter must read between 2 & 2.4 MHZ.
7. Remove frequency meter from board.
8. PB-70 only - Use straight edge to check that main dial capacitor is closed. Line under "I" in "Scale" must be under lower fiducial line.

A.



CALIBRATING "SPAN" CONTROL

1. Make sure "Bal" control is at 50% and set dial to "Bal" line on fiducial (scale A-60), check for meter zero, adjust for zero, if necessary, with "Cal" control.
2. Using Hopper T-40166, dump beads. (A-10-606-1).
3. Adjust main dial to exactly A-23.
4. Turn switch to On position. Adjust "Span" control for meter zero.
5. Remove beads and repeat adjustments 1 through 4 until no further adjustments are necessary.
6. Turn dial to A-10 and turn "Bal" control making sure meter passes through both sides of center. Repeat above using dial setting of 110.
- A. 7. PB-71 only - Set dial with mark at F Corr 1.50 - 3.25 under fiducial line. Balance meter with Bal. Cap. Turn dial to next balance position and must read 90 - 100 on "A" Scale.
- B. 8. PB-70 only - Set dial with A-60 aligned with upper fiducial (upside-down 60). Balance meter. Turn dial and find balance at a second dial position. This position must be between A-100 and A-110 (using lower fiducial).

b-28304

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PB-70 MOISTURE METER CALIBRATION

1. Plug in power source.
2. Note power-off rest position of meter. This is the "Null" point which the power-on calibration point must match.
3. Set dial at A-23 on bottom fiducial.
4. Press red button to turn on power. Meter should move to right. *left*
5. *10 MA*  
Dump bead sample into hopper.
6. *> 10 MA PUT ASIDE < 10 MA CONTINUE CURRENT DRAW*  
Press red button. Adjust brass trimmer screw to null the meter. (No movement from rest position).
7. Insert hex tool into coil and turn C.C.W. until it stops. Meter should have moved to *left.*  
*right*
8. Turn Coil C.W. to bring meter back to right. Stop just before the meter starts to move left again. (This set point will not necessarily be at the center of the meter).
9. Re-adjust the trimmer screw to null the meter. (No movement).
10. Press voltage drop button in power cord. Meter should not move from rest position. Very small deviations may be corrected by moving the dial within limits of A-21 to A-25 to null the meter.
12. X. Insert probe into beads. Frequency counter must indicate 2.0 to 2.4.
11. 12. Unplug power source. Connect battery and check meter null as in step 9.

TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE FOR  
PB-70 MOISTURE TESTER  
MODEL 400 & 400B

FAULT	DESCRIPTION	POSSIBLE REMEDIES
A-Scale 60 will not calibrate	Cal. trimmer out of range	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Add C16 as required</li> <li>2. Check main dial alignment</li> <li>3. Check for correct wiring</li> </ol>
A-Scale 23 (400 only) will not calibrate	Span trimmer out of range	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Add C15 as required</li> <li>2. Check main dial alignment</li> <li>3. Check for correct wiring</li> </ol>
Will not hold calibration	Null will not repeat  (400 only)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Check D1 &amp; D2</li> <li>2. Check Q1</li> <li>3. Check for cold solder joints</li> <li>4. Check switch contacts</li> </ol>
Unstable meter	Null point floats	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Check Q1</li> <li>2. Check D1 &amp; D2</li> <li>3. Check T1</li> <li>4. Check power voltage</li> <li>5. Check for cold solder joints</li> </ol>
Meter pegs left	Cannot null bal- ance with trimmer or balance capacitor	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Check D1 &amp; D2</li> <li>2. Check for correct wiring</li> </ol>
Meter pegs right	Same as above (400 only)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 1 and 2 above</li> <li>2. Balance capacitor plates shorted</li> <li>3. Check for cold solder joints</li> </ol>
Dead unit	No meter response	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Check Q1</li> <li>2. Check T1</li> <li>3. Check power voltage</li> <li>4. Check for correct wiring</li> </ol>
Unit will not peak		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Check Q1</li> <li>2. Check T1</li> <li>3. Check power voltage</li> </ol>

## TEST SPECIFICATIONS FOR MODEL 400 B MOISTURE METER

TOLERANCES, UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED ARE:  
 TWO PLACE DECIMALS  
 THREE PLACE DECIMALS  
 ANGULAR  $\pm 1^\circ$

(XX)  $\pm$   
 (XXX)  $\pm$   
 (XXX)  $\pm$

## A. Mechanical Specifications

1. Main variable capacitor must be fully closed  $\pm 1^\circ$  with dial at counterclockwise index mark.
2. Hair line on top and bottom fiducial must coincide with respective index marks to a tolerance of  $\pm 1^\circ$ .
3. Clearance between dial and fiducials must be 1/16 inch,  $\pm 1/32$  inch at all points.

## B. Electrical

1. Check meter zero with power OFF. Needle shall be within Ball area.
2. For electrical tests D.C. supply voltage shall be  $9 \pm 1$  volt D.C.
3. Using trip hopper and standard bead sample A-10-606-3 load tester.
4. Set coil core at full CCW travel (circuit load end of coil) and main dial for balance condition.
5. Adjust coil core CW noting that balance meter will start to deflect to the left. Further CW adjustment will produce a sharp balance meter null back to the RIGHT. Adjust core for this null position and back off CCW 1/8 of a turn.
6. Adjust capacitor C-6 for an A scale reading of  $23 \pm .5$  and recheck tuning per step 5.
7. Oscillator frequency shall be  $2.2 \text{ MHz} \pm 0.2 \text{ MHz}$ .
8. Tapping instrument with rubber mallet must show freedom from intermittent operation.
9. Subsequent cal check using A-10-606-3 bead sample shall provide an A scale reading of  $23 \pm 2$  division and calibration curve shall pass through A scale  $123 \pm 4$  div. with 20.0 MMF test capacitor.

BD-51842

<b>Eaton</b>		Eaton Corporation Automotive and Appliance Controls Operation Carol Stream, Illinois 60137	
DR. BY R.W.S.	DATE 1-6-77	TITLE	
CH. BY JLB	DATE 1-6-77	TEST SPECIFICATIONS	
DES. APP.	DATE	EOM M-400 B M.M.	
DEV. APP. M.L.	DATE 1-6-77		
MATERIAL: $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$			
REISO. DATE 1-6-77 AUTH. 3115-1		DWG. No. BD-51842	
SCALE: $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$			

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REVISIONS

(9)

## EL 57-A BEAD METER CALIBRATION CHECK

1. Balance bead meter empty in normal way.
2. Plug "Bead Meter Standard" into posts mounted on right side of meter.\* Balance meter will peg to the right.
3. Rebalance bead meter as would be done with bead sample.
4. Bead meter must balance at  $A-160 \pm 1$  division.  
*\*The Bead Meter Standard is identified 'CM-1'. Be sure to push this module all the way into the posts.*

## PROCEDURE TO CHECK "BEAD METER STANDARD"

1. Balance empty at 0 with Standard Capacitor (No. 722) connected and set to 9.99 P.f. Turn switch at top of bead meter for this purpose to the proper position.
2. Set Standard Capacitor to read 1.57 P.f. Bead meter should rebalance with main dial. Reading should be  $160 \pm 1$  on the "A" scale.  
*\*133±1 for AES' bead meter.*
3. When the first two steps have been completed, plug in "Bead Meter Standard" and balance meter. Reading should be  $160 \pm 1$  on the "A" scale.  
*\*133±1 for AES.*

SC-027

April 7, 1976

Rev. 1 11-10-76

## MOISTURE METER SCALE CALIBRATION

1. Assemble scale on moisture meter being certain that all four axles are free to rotate.
2. Attach calibration weight GA-73324 (5 ounces less .5 gram = 141.25 gram) to trimount stud in cup.
3. Adjust screw in scale beam to move weight and balance the scale. Check scale by adding beads GA-46009 to cup. Scale must balance (top of beam horizontal) with zero to 12 beads\* in cup and beam must move beyond the balance point to mechanical stop\*\* when up to 4 additional beads are added.

\* Twelve beads weigh approximately .96 grams and four beads weigh approximately .3 grams. (See A-10-696.)

\*\*Since the PB-70 has no mechanical stop the "out-of-balance" condition is considered to occur when the beam is at an angle equal to the angle of the beam of a PB-71 scale when at the mechanical stop.

SC-~~043~~ 043

Rev. 1

10-21-77

MANUFACTURING INSTRUCTIONSINSTRUCTIONS TO BEAD METER USE (E-806)  
FOR CALIBRATION OF MOISTURE METER GLASS BEAD SAMPLEPreliminary Instructions:

Keep hands clear of balance indicating meters and the posts extending out of right side of the bead meter.

Avoid placing hands against sides of bead meter.

Avoid bumping or moving the bead meter during a test.

All alignments and readings are made from scale A on the large dial and the bottom end of the reference line on its fiducial.

Balance of the bead meter is indicated by the meter in the upper left hand corner.

Always view the balance meter pointer from the same position when using it.

After you are finished using the bead meter, return it to the balance mode.

Make sure the drawer is in bead meter, no beads are in hopper or inside, and no beads are in the drawer. (Check in the order described to prevent spilling beads.)

Switch on upper right of front panel must be in the "Normal" position (to the left).

BEAD SAMPLE TEST PROCEDURE

- 1) Carefully and slowly pour bead sample into hopper. Ideally the beads should be piled neatly in the center of the hopper.
- 2) Again make sure drawer is in bead meter (on right side).
- 3) Turn the large dial to make the indicated A Scale "0" mark appear directly under the line on the lower end of the clear plastic fiducial.

SC-~~8420~~43

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10-21-77

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- 4) Make balance meter show balance using the knob to the right and above the large dial.
- 5) Drop bead sample from the hopper into the cell by pushing the lever to the left of the hopper all the way down. The balance meter pointer will swing to the extreme right to indicate "Over" condition.
- 6) Turn large dial to make the indicated "Cal" mark appear directly under the line on the lower end of the clear plastic fiducial.
- 7) The balance meter pointer will now indicate whether the bead sample is under or over size. If the balance meter pointer can be made to show balance by turning the large dial in either direction no further than one of the small marks on either side of the "Cal" mark, the sample is good.
- 8) The bead sample is removed from the bead meter by slowly depressing the knob to the right of the hopper all the way down. Pull drawer out of the right hand side of the bead meter (only after first depressing the lever).
- 9) If the sample is not good add beads to sample for the "Under" condition or remove them for the "Over". How many to add or remove will have to be determined by trial and error.
- 10) If the sample is good recheck it once more so that the bead sample shows good twice.

When you are finished with the bead meter return the large dial to the "0" mark so that the balance meter pointer is near the balance mark.

9-23-81

BY WEIGHT: 343 GRAMS  
12.11 OZ.

(15)



SC-043

Rev. 2

08-17-79

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BEAD METER CALIBRATION CHECK

1. Balance bead meter empty in normal way.
2. Plug "Bead Meter Standard" into posts mounted on right side of meter.\* Balance meter will peg to the right.
3. Rebalance bead meter as would be done with bead sample.
4. Bead meter must balance at  $A-1665 \pm 1$  division ( $A-132 \pm 1$  for A.E.S.).

\*The "Bead Meter Standard" is identified "CM-1" (CM-2 for A.E.S.). Be sure to push this module all the way into the posts.

PROCEDURE TO CHECK "BEAD METER STANDARD"

1. Put switch at upper right (next to balance control) off "Normal".
2. Balance empty at 0 with Standard Capacitor (No. 722) connected and set to 9.99 P.f.
3. Set Standard Capacitor to read 1.57 P.f. Bead meter should rebalance with main dial. Reading should be  $166.5 \pm 1$  on the "A" scale ( $132 \pm 1$  div. for A.E.S.).
4. As a final check test the meter again with the Bead Meter Standard Module used above.

## MANUFACTURING INSTRUCTION SC-014

## MOISTURE METER BEAD CLEANING

1. Rinse beads thoroughly with warm water. (DO NOT use soaps or detergents.)
2. Rinse beads 3 times with methyl alcohol (methanol) to remove water.

**EAT•N****Process Instruction Sheet**

Part No. PB-70-ALL & PB-71-ALL  
 Operation No. Repair  
 B/P Revision \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared By: R. EvensenPart Name: Moisture TesterApproved By: *M. Hansen*Date: 7-23-80Issue: 1Sheet 1Of 1Operation Description: Analyze cause of electrical malfunction.

Tool and Gage Numbers	Description	Tool and Gage Numbers	Description

**Sketch****FAULT**

A-Scale 23  
will not calibrate.

**DESCRIPTION**

Cal trimmer  
out of range.

**POSSIBLE REMEDIES**

1. Check for correct wiring.
2. Check main dial alignment.
3. Add C16 as required.

Will not hold  
calibration.

Null will not  
repeat.

1. Check for cold soldering.
2. Wires not taped to panel.
3. Check Q1.
4. Check D1 & D2.

Unstable meter.

Null point  
floats.

1. Check for cold soldering.
2. Check T1.
3. Check Q1.
4. Check D1 & D2.
5. Check power input voltage.

**Instructions**

Meter pegs left  
or right.

Cannot null  
balance meter.

1. Check for correct wiring.
2. Check for solder shorts.
3. Check D1 & D2.

Dead unit.

No meter  
response.

1. Check for correct power input voltage.
2. Check T1.
3. Check D3, Q1.
4. Check for correct wiring.

Unit will not peak.

1. Check input power voltage.
2. Check T1.
3. Check T1 for broken core.
4. Check Q1.

Special Notes: Refer to product drawings and specifications for part identification and location.

Part No. PB-70-ALL & PB-71-ALL  
 Operation No. Repair  
 B/P Revision \_\_\_\_\_